The Colonist.

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A CANADIAN MONROE DOCTRINE.

The announcement from Ottawa that the Dominion Government is considering the advisability of opening negotiations with Newfoundland with a view to that colony entering the Confederation, is interesting. But besides this it is stated that the Government has also some idea of endeavoring to purchase Greenland from Denmark. The consummation of these two proposals—if they are really being considered by the Government at Ottawa—would bring under one government all the territory lying north of the southern boundary of the Dominion with the exception of Alaska. In both these projects Sir Wilfrid Laurier would almost certainly receive the general support of Canadians, since the policy which they indicate is one that must commend itself to every intelligent and thoughtful person. The expression of public opinion that has followed the announcement of the decision of the Alaskan Boundary Tribunal shows very clearly that Canadian opinion is strongly in favor of the consolidation of the Dominion as regards adjacent territory, and that the acquisition of any of the latter by any foreign power will be strongly resented throughout Canada by men of all political parties. It cannot but be regarded as an unfortunate circumstance for the Dominion that the Russian possessions on this continent should have been acquired by the United States, and thereby Canada has been prevented from rounding off her borders on the Pacific Ocean by territory which, from its location and natural characteristics should properly be included in our Yukon Territory. But in the sixties little heed was given by British statesmen to what was transpiring in the remote regions of the North Pacific and Arctic circle. The Dominion of Canada was then in the future, and there was no one in this part of the Empire capable of making representations to London of the importance of Great Britain consolidating her possessions in this quarter of the globe. That little value was attached to Alaska, or any confidence felt in its commercial potentialities was demonstrated by the opposition manifested in the United States to Mr. Seward's acceptance of Russia's offer. The $7,500,000 which was the price paid for Alaska was regarded by many persons as far in excess of the extreme value of the territory. Yet more than that has been already realized from the product of one mine, to say nothing of the receipts from other sources of wealth. It is, of course, not improbable that Russia, while willing to sell Alaska to the United States, would not have entertained any offer from Great Britain. The Crimean war had only been ended a few months, besides which there was the traditional jealousy between the two empires, the result of which was then, as it is now, to cause the rulers of the two nations to regard each other's policy with suspicion. It is, however, useless now to lament over what cannot be undone, although it is not an uninteresting speculation to consider how different the situation would be today were Alaska incorporated with the Dominion instead of being an outlying part of the United States. In such a situation disputes about the sealing fisheries and other matters that have created international complications, would not have arisen.

The recollection of these things will certainly cause Canadians to desire that every precaution should be taken to prevent anything like a repetition of them elsewhere. If Denmark should be willing to dispose of Greenland, it can only be permitted to transfer it to Canada. Any wise and farseeing policy must include this. To allow the United States or any other foreign power to establish itself on our northeast frontier would be a course that could not fail to be most inimical to our interests as a nation, and almost certain to lead to serious international complications at some future time. It is, therefore, satisfactory to see that public attention has been aroused to the importance of this matter. Great Britain has acquiesced in the Monroe Doctrine promulgated by the United States. She should, therefore, expand that policy by announcing that, as far as the French islands on the coast of Newfoundland and Greenland are concerned, they come within the scope of a Canadian Monroe Doctrine, and can pass from their present ownership to none other than that of the Dominion.

HOPE OF PEACE LESSENING.

The general tenor of the advices now being received by cable as to the situation in the Orient, is unfortunately only too indicative of early warfare. Russia seemingly will not yield as regards Korea, even if permitted to retain her present status—such as it is—in Manchuria, and Japan cannot, without placing her destiny at the command of Russia, permit that power to become dominant in Korea.

Our Empire and France, so, too, the United States, are doing their utmost to prevent what would be one of the most terrible wars of modern times, but it seems as if Germany, which might give most effective aid in the matter by like action, was not doing much, if anything, to facilitate a peaceful issue.

Meanwhile an Associated Press despatch states that the German Government, whilst still entertaining slight hopes of a peaceful solution, is convinced that if war occurs, Great Britain will inevitably take part in it, "because the British Government looks upon war as possibly the only means of saving and re-establishing British power and prestige in the Orient."

This, however, is a malicious libel upon our Imperial Government, which has lost, and is losing, no seemingly available opportunity of diplomatic intervention and negotiation with a view to preserving peace.

This is but natural, for peace is, admittedly, the greatest interest of our commercial Empire, which consequently only declares for war in these days, if it be impossible to secure peace under honorable conditions.

Mr. R. L. Borden is now resting awhile after making a veritable triumphal progress through Nova Scotia, in the course of which he addressed at different points many large and representative meetings of electors. He roused much enthusiasm everywhere and easily convinced those who heard him of his capacity for the leadership of a great party.

Mr. Denis Murphy, ex-M. P. P., is working hard for, and will probably secure, the Liberal nomination for the Yale-Cariboo division. But with a good Conservative candidate in the field—as we trust there soon will be—such nomination is quite likely to be fruitless. There are some strongly Conservative districts and a host of good Conservative voters in Yale-Cariboo.

Yet another victory has been won for Mr. Chamberlain's policy, this time at a bye-election held for the Ludlow division of the very Conservative rural county of Salop. Mr. Rowland Hunt stood as an out and out supporter of the ex-Colonial Secretary, and won by a handsome majority of 970 votes. Evidently even those in England, who are usually very slow in modifying their opinions on matters political, are convinced that it is time for a change, and a sweeping change of the national fiscal policy.

The police authorities of Vancouver have ordered out of town a large number of vagrants, to whose operations have been probably due many recent thefts and several cases of shopbreaking by night. A great and steadily growing nuisance has thus been checked in the Terminal City, perhaps, however, at the temporary cost of neighbor districts, which some of the vagabonds will enter. They will thence, however, also be "moved on" should they show signs of intention to stay. In the end most will probably cross the line, a familiar process with many of them.

The London Times published the other day in extenso, at the request of our Province's Agent-General, a very interesting survey of the general position of Canada in relation to the United States, written by Mr. R. E. Gosnell. It takes the form of a supposed interview with an American, seeking information on the subject, and brings out some excellent arguments against either the advisability or the likelihood of annexation. Mr. Gosnell's discussion of the subject also gives, as is obviously its useful intention, most valuable information to British readers, of whom through the columns of the Times there will doubtless be thousands.

BOARD OF TRADE AND THE ASSESSMENT ACT.

We are greatly surprised by the official communication from the Victoria Board of Trade, signed by the secretary under special direction of the board, which appeared in our issue of the 20th instant.

It affords yet another instance of hasty and ill-advised criticism of the public acts of the Province, and it displays gross ignorance of acts which have been in force for years.

Our leading article of the 17th instant was absolutely correct. In it we quoted from the statutes of the Province and proved that all personal property was liable to taxation; subject to certain exemptions specified in the acts. We proved that personal estate included book debts due to the taxpayer and that the merchant referred to in the first illustration in the board's schedule should have been assessed upon the value of his stock in trade as well as upon the value of his book debts, which, together, amounted to $300,000, less the exemption, of $75,000, to which he was entitled upon his stock in trade, provided that such sum of $75,000 was due to the original vendor of the goods; but if the $75,000 were not so due, and the merchant had borrowed that sum from anyone else in order to pay off the original vendor, he should NOT have been allowed to deduct this. Hence, in this event, he should have been assessed for $375,000, upon which the tax would have been $1,875 instead of $375, as incorrectly stated in the board's illustration. If the merchant was really entitled to the deduction of the $75,000, then his assessable personal property was $225,000, upon which the tax would be $1,125, and not $375.00.

The secretary of the Board of Trade quotes incorrectly the law as to exemption of debts, for, he says, "the exemption provides that any just debt incurred in the accumulation of this personal property can be deducted." The law does NOT say so; the words of the act are plain and distinct. Sub-section 19 of section 4, chapter 56, of the 1901 statutes is as follows: "So much of the personal property of any person as is equal to the just debts owing by him for and on account of the purchase price of said personal property to the vendor of said personal property, his executors, administrators or assigns." All personal property should have been taxed with this exemption, and this exemption is limited to the debt due to the vendor of the property, and NOT, as the secretary puts it, to "any just debt." His letter further states that the board "claims that, under the old act, it was, therefore, the intention that a merchant should be taxed upon his net worth, which in this case would be, as we before stated, $75,000, and his taxes accordingly would be $375." If by "net worth" the secretary means the assessable personal property of the merchant under the acts, then his conclusions are wrong; because the net assessable personal property of the merchant was $225,000, not $75,000, always provided that he was entitled to the exemption quoted from the 1901 act, and if not entitled to that exemption, then the assessable personalty was $375,000.

Both the schedule of the board and the secretary's letter, try to arrive at the "net worth" or "net capital" of the merchant as $75,000, but any competent bookkeeper would be ashamed to make such an erroneous statement, from the proposition laid down in the illustration given by the board. The merchant quoted by way of example apparently began business with a capital of $75,000; he has now on hand stock to the value of $150,000, and his other assets are the book debts due to him of $150,000, together these sums represent his assets. His only liability is $75,000, due upon the goods, leaving a surplus of $225,000. This surplus is surely his "net worth" or his "net capital," and it would be the sum which he could put in his pocket and retire with, if he sold out at full value to some one else.

The use of the phrase, "a merchant with a capital of $75,000," is misleading and unnecessary, for the purpose of arriving at his present net worth or net capital, and how it can be claimed by anyone conversant with business affairs that the merchant's net worth, in the illustration given by the board, is only $75,000, is really incomprehensible.

We have referred before to the absurdity of any person attempting to carry on business with a stock in hand of $150,000 and book debts of $150,000, and being due $75,000 on the stock. He could not even pay out twenty-cents for a telegram even, until he had either sold goods or collected a debt, a position in which no business man would like to be placed.

The Assessment Acts of the Province have always included book debts as part of the personal property, but the act of 1903, passed on the 4th of May last, enlarged the interpretation of "personal estate," and this has been repeated in the act passed on the 12th instant. There has been no change in the law, as to what constitutes personal property, the only changes in the new act are, that the merchant is not allowed to deduct any debt due upon it, and that the rate of taxation has been increased from one-half of one per cent. the former law rate, to one per cent., less a discount if paid on or before the 30th June, of 10 per cent.

The new act adopts the principle of making a merchant, and an owner of real estate, liable to assessment upon the amounts equally invested, and the rate of taxation alike. If it was right before to allow owners of personal property to deduct debts, then it should have been, in justice, allowed to owners of real property also to deduct debts. Now the positions of each class of owner are equalized, so that equal investments in land or personal property pay the same rate of taxation.

The rule to guide assessors in valuing either personal property or real estate given in the act, is that it must be the cash value, "as it would be taken in payment of a just debt from a solvent debtor, and if in any case the stock in trade, or book debts, are not worth the inventory value on their books, it is only the cash value that ought to be assessed."

The increase in the rate of taxation on personal property is, of course, greater relatively to that on real estate, for the simple reason that formerly the rate on personal property was proportionately lower than on real property—the low rate in the one case being one-half of one per cent., and in the other three-fifths of one per cent.

There has been no greater burden imposed by the new act upon merchants than has been imposed upon owners of real estate.

There is also no truth in the cry raised that goods will be sent direct from Eastern points to compete unfairly with stocks carried here, because all personal property found here is taxable, including that of non-residents, and wherever personal property is found, the person in possession is deemed the owner for taxation purposes. The goods from the East would, therefore, be subject to the same tax. Goods in transit from or to a foreign state are, of course, not taxable.

The facts of the case being as above stated, the Board of trade calculations being, on the other hand, most erroneous, we have no doubt that in due season "the truth will prevail," whilst it will also be found that the recent changes of taxation will have no such formidable effects as those predicted by hasty critics of such changes.

SATISFACTORILY ARRANGED.

The Government has forwarded to London the sum necessary to meet the pressing obligation of the Province—an amount approximately representing $300,000. Satisfactory arrangements are also being made as to the balance of the $1,000,000 loan, and it will not be necessary to place any of the debentures under the Loan Bill on the market.

P. G.—You are wrong. Though statistics vary somewhat, the area of Canada may be given approximately at 3,456,383 square miles, that of the United States, including Alaska, at 3,507,640 square miles. Alaska's area is estimated at 531,000 square miles.

"Will we be in extremities again next year?" asks our Opposition contemporary. Certainly not, with a Conservative government of practical men, carefully administering, a larger Provincial revenue in a period which will assuredly be one of very considerable development for British Columbia.

An Ottawa despatch states that tentative negotiations are progressing with Newfoundland as regards the entrance of that Island into our Dominion federation, a consummation so much to be desired as to justify the offer of unusually liberal terms of union. It is also stated that the Imperial Government will be urged to secure, if possible, the purchase of Greenland from Denmark in order to prevent that territory from passing into the hands of any other foreign power and becoming in consequence utilizable to the detriment of British North America. Very likely Denmark will not now sell Greenland, but the British and the Danish courts are on such friendly terms that it might nevertheless be possible for Great Britain to enter into a treaty arrangement with Denmark, granting to our Empire the first right to purchase that Arctic territory in the event of any future resolve of the Danes to dispose of the region. Such an agreement would be analogous to that made between Great Britain and Portugal in respect of Delagoa Bay, South Africa.

An interesting discussion on Canadian affairs took place at the London Chamber of Commerce on the 14th inst. Lord Brassey, who avowed himself a follower of the Duke of Devonshire, and disclaimed an acceptance of Mr. Chamberlain's programme, held that financial discussions between the mother country and the colonies in regard to Imperial defence, should be, as far as possible, avoided. Colonial governments should, however, feel it to be their duty to strengthen their home defensive forces, as by so doing they would indirectly strengthen the general defensive position of the Empire. As regards Canada in particular, he held that the Dominion should furnish men for a naval reserve, the Imperial Government providing drill ships and paying the men sufficient retainers in respect of their work and liability to serve. Lord Brassey also strongly urged that the Imperial funds should aid liberally the establishment of a fast ocean service to Canada, with crews of naval reserve men. Later in the evening Mr. Henry Bell Irvine, of Vancouver, strongly advocated Mr. Chamberlain's fiscal policy, and warned those present that unless Great Britain forestalled American action by adopting such a preference, there would be no little danger of an agitation in Canada for closer commercial union with the States, which would assuredly weaken the Imperial connection.

ASTHMA CURED AT LAST—Mr. Robt. Crow, Elmdale, Ont., had given up all hope but was induced by a friend to try Clarke's Kola Compound, and now says: "After a thorough treatment with this grand remedy I am now cured of this awful disease, after having given up all hope." Mr. Crow took seven bottles but the cure was complete. Give the remedy a trial. It never fails if an honest, persistent treatment is given. Send for sample. Three bottles $5.00 prepaid from The Griffiths & Macpherson Co., Limited, Toronto. All druggists.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

PROVINCIAL RAILWAY MATTERS.

Sir,—Considerable prominence has been given during the past few days—and more particularly by the Coast newspapers which act as spokesmen for the various schemes incidental to the James J. Hill railway enterprises—to an announcement made in St. Paul on Wednesday of this week, with respect to the early commencement of construction on the long-talked-of Hill road to open up the rich Similkameen.

At first glance the "announcement" in question carries with it conviction that the Hill proposal is to be built north from a connection with the Great Northern main line somewhere near its crossing of the Columbia river into the Similkameen and Kootenay districts, proceeding thence via a newly discovered low gradient route, to the provincial Pacific seaboard.

Analysis, however, disproves entirely this premature assumption, and leads to the conclusion that the so-called "announcement" is not unintentionally deceptive in its phrasing, but rather purposely ambiguous, since its fair-sounding words but cover up a project whose possible success must be altogether dependent upon the hoodwinking of the British Columbia public—for it is a project whose keynote is despoliation, not development, of British Columbia.

"It was announced in St. Paul today on high official authority," to quote the precise words of the announcement referred to, "that President James J. Hill's engineers have found a satisfactory route from Princeton to the coast, and that the Kootenay line he has had in mind for two years, will be built, running in a northerly direction to Princeton, B. C., and then in a more southerly course to tidewater. The line will follow the Similkameen to Princeton. The difficulty has been in finding low grades west of Princeton."

In further elaboration of the above the following "official statement" was made to the St. Paul corespondent of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer: "The line will be an ore and coal line, and the grades must be low or Mr. Hill will not build. Such grades have been found. They are lower than those of the Canadian Pacific through the Kicking Horse pass. Mr. Hill is now in a position to go after a tremendous amount of Canadian business, for which he can afford, when the line is built, to make a lower rate than the Canadian Pacific can afford. It may be interesting to state that there will be a kind of revenge in this. The Canadian Pacific once blocked a Kootenay project of Mr. Hill's in the Canadian parliament, and asked $3,000,000 in subsidies and 2,000,000 acres of land. The project partially covered the same line Mr. Hill now intends to build. The building of this line means that Mr. Hill believes that there is traffic to support a line which the Canadian Pacific will not build without an enormous subsidy. I am informed that this line will now be built within a year or two. The matter, as I am advised, now rests almost entirely with what the decision in the Northern Securities case is. This decision will mean the expenditure of millions in Great Northern construction if it is favorable."

It looks like a very benovelent plan to benefit this province, especially as Mr. Hill asks neither cash or land subsidy from the public. But when one gets beyond the gilding, it is not hard to comprehend how it is that Mr. Hill is "now in a position to go after a tremendous amount of Canadian business," at the advantage indicated. It is to be done simply by milking the southerly coal and metalliferous areas of British Columbia for the exclusive benefit of the Great Northern railway and its associated interests in the adjacent states. It may be freely admitted that a temporary or largely fictitious advantage would accrue to the portions of the province directly interested by the construction contemplated. The building of the line as indicated would in a measure accomplish that much-desired result, viz: open up the British Columbia Similkameen. It would cause an immediate and considerable activity in the exploitation and development of the coal and metalliferous mines of that district.

But it would make the wealth of this resourceful district wholly tributary to the American railway of which Mr. James J. Hill is the very energetic head, and of the subsidy enterprises of that American road.

This is why the Hill interests are so ready to build without provincial assistance. They aim to get the money out of British Columbia more indirectly but in infinitely larger amount. They can well forego provincial bonus, for their benevolent intentions go little further than the accomplishment of purely selfish business advantage. Their scheme does not contemplate by any means the founding and building up of British Columbia smelters or the provision of direct communication between the Kootenay, the Similkameen, and the Coast cities of British Columbia—quite the reverse, for completion of the Hill railway so alluringly presented would have the inevitable result of giving the trade of these great districts of British Columbia wholly and irretrievably into the hands of the merchants of Spokane and Everett, or other of the Great Northern cities, whose interests are wedded to the interests of Mr. James J. Hill.

Argument is scarcely needed in support of this declaration. All that is required is demonstration of the facts so carefully kept in the background in the Hill announcement, and which the local journalistic champions of the Hill interests are so eloquently silent with respect to

That the proposed Hill road will "run in a northerly direction to Princeton, B. C., and then in a more southerly course to tidewater," is safe generality. It is not untrue at that—and it sounds much better in British Columbia ears than would a bald recital of the fact that the road in question is projected to extend north to Princeton, following the valleys of the Okanagan and the Similkameen rivers from near Wenatchee, where the Great Northern main line crosses the Columbia—to serve as a coal and ore feeder to the Great Northern railway and its associate interests east of Spokane.

And it is also not untrue and at the same time more agreeable for British Columbia publication to say that the prospective line will, from Princeton, "take a more southerly course to tidewater" than to disclose that at Princeton the road is designed to make an elbow, still following the Similkameen river towards its source to the south, until its headwaters all but meet those of the Skagit and the road promptly recrosses the international boundary line, to carry the coal and metalliferous ores of the Similkameen as tribute to the Everett smelter, and give the business men of that Great Northern town which J. N Hill has undertaken to make a great city, what must be classed a virtual monopoly of the Similkameen trade.

It only requires a glance at the map, with knowledge of the fact that the approved survey follows the Okanagan, Similkameen and Skagit valleys to connect both ends of the projected line with the Great Northern in the state of Washington, to explain the motive of the Hill interests in last week becoming actively interested (by purchase of $50,000 worth of stock in the Diamond Vale Coal Company's properties at Nicola Lake) in the development of the mineral wealth of the Similkameen.

Whether Mr. Hill will be permitted to carry out his very pretty despoliation programme, remains to be disclosed. He holds a Dominion charter, it is true, but it is for a through Canadian road to the coast, construction of which would have an opposite effect, as to the national building up of Canadian interests for the Canadian people, not for their American neighbors. On several previous occasions the Hill people have boldly endeavored to make the possession of this Dominion charter excuse for the building of short feeder lines to make interior districts of this province contributary to the Great Northern plans. On each of these past occasions the Dominion has wisely and patriotically intervened with a reminder that the Canadian trunk line is necessary as antecedent to the tributary spurs. One may therefore rely upon the Dominion intervening at the appropriate time to prevent the execution of the present plan, which only the map is needed to lay bare—a plan to drain one of the richest districts of this Canadian province for the virtually exclusive advantage of the neighbor state.

B. C. 4 B. C.

RETAIL MARKETS

Christmas trade is in full swing. Goods of superfine quality are on the market fresh from England and the States, so that this year's Christmas pudding, etc., should be exceptionally toothsome. The new dried fruits from California are in fine condition, prunes, peaches, apricots and so on, especially the prunes, which are beauties. Several of the leading groceries have got in consignments of raisins from Malaga, Spain, and their match for excellence of quality has never been seen in this city. They will find quick sale at 40c. per lb. There are now on the market some very nice, local crop, apples, well packed and very attractive, which should be sellers on sight. Fresh Island eggs are dropping in price, and are now down to 50c. a dozen. Following are this week's quotations:

Corn, whole, per ton	$30
Corn, cracked	$32
Corn, feed meal	$32
Oats, per ton	$30
Oatmeal, per 10 lbs.	40
Rolled oats, B. & K., per lb	4
Rolled oats, B. & K. per 7-lb sack	35
Flour—	
Hungarian, per sack	$1.40
Hungarian, per bbl	$5.00
Pastry Flour—	
Snow Flake, per sack	$1.40
Snow Flake, per bbl	$5.50
Three Star, per sack	$1.40
Three Star, per bbl.	$5.50
Drifted Snow, per sack	$1.35
Drifted Snow, per bbl.	$5.25
Coal Oil—	
Pratt's coal oil	$1.70
Eocene oil	$1.80
Feed—	
Hay, Island, per ton	$16
Hay, B. C.	$15
Straw, per bale	75
Oats, per ton	$27
Wheat, per ton	$30
Middlings, per ton	$30
Bran, per ton	$28
Ground feed, per ton	$28
Vegetables—	
Beans, per lb	5
Chili peppers, per lb.	30
Cabbage, per head	5 to 10
Cauliflower, per head	10
Onions, per lb	3
Carrots, per lb	1½ to 3
Beet root, per lb.	3
Potatoes, per sack	$1.25
Potatoes, per ton	$15
Sweet potatoes, per lb	5
Green peas, per lb., local	5
Celery	10 to 15
Tomatoes, per lb.	6
Cucumbers, each	5
Artichokes, per lb	2
Eggs—	
Fresh Island, per dozen	50
Eastern eggs, per dozen	30
Fresh cream, per pint	30
Cheese—	
Canadian, per lb	20 to 25
Butter—	
Manitoba, per lb	30
Best dairy, per lb	20 to 25
Victoria creamery, per lb	35
Cowichan creamery, per lb.	35
Delta	35
Fresh Island butter	25 to 30
Fruits—	
Shelled Jordan almonds	75
Walnuts, lb.	25
Filberts, lb.	25
Almonds, lb	25
Brazils, lb.	25
Pecans, lb.	25
Valencia	06
Figs	20
Valencia raisins	12½
New cleaned currants, best Patras	12½
Best Sultanas	20
Table raisins	25 to 35
Bananas, per dozen	25 to 50
Oranges, per doz.	25 to 50
Plums, per lb	4
Watermelon, each	40 to 50
Squash, each	5 to 10
Apricots, per lb.	15
Pears, per lb	3
Grape fruit, each	5
Peaches, per lb	12½
New dates	10
Cocoanuts, each	10
Japanese oranges, box	40
New navel oranges, dozen	50
Lemons, California, per doz.	25
Local apples, per box	$1 to $1.25
Baldwins	$1.25
Lemon Pippins	$1.25
English Kings	$1.50
Currants, per lb	10 to 12½
Raisins, per lb	12½
Malaga raisins	40
Sultanas	17½
California	12½
Loose Muscats	8 to 10
Mixed peel, per lb	15
Jams, Assorted—	
Cross & Blackwell's, 1-lb. jars	25
Local jams, 5-lb. pails	75
Local jams, 2-lb jars	35
Local jams, 1-lb jars	25
Poultry—	
Dressed fowls	20 to 25
Fish—	
Smoked salmon, per lb	15
Spring salmon, per lb	10
Cod, per lb	8
Halibut, per lb	8
Smoked halibut	12½
Halibut, frozen	6
Flounders	6
Crabs, per dozen	50 to 75
Bloaters	10
Kippers	12½
Salt mackerel, each	15
Salt cod, per lb	10
Salt tongues and sounds, per lb.	20
Salt Holland herring, per keg	$1.50
Salt salmon, each	25
Salmon bellies, per lb	12½
Meats—	
Beef	10 to 18
Mutton, per lb	12½ to 18
Pork	11 to 17
Hams, American, per lb.	22
Bacon, American, per lb.	22 to 2
Bacon, rolled	16
Bacon, long clear	20

DIED.

RISKE—At the Royal Columbia Hospital, New Westminster, on the 14th instant, L. W. Riske, aged 82 years.

GRIEVE—On the 16th instant, at 700 Camble streets, Vancouver, Hugh Grieve.

GILES—At the residence of her sister, Mrs. G. Meade, New Westminster, on the 18th inst, Edith, beloved wife of George F. Giles, of Shawnigan Lake, aged 61 years, and a native of England.

TWAY—At the residence of Mr. Perkins, Glenfield avenue, Lake District, on the 18th inst, John Tway, a native of Jersey, Channel Islands, aged 77 years.

IRVINE—In this city on the 17th instant, Robert Irvine, a native of Victoria, B. C., aged 32 years.

BORN.

STONSTROM—In Victoria on December 13th, the wife of V. Luaviter Stonstrom of a son.

HOLT—On the 18th inst., the wife of Gilbert S. Holt, of twins, a son and a daughter.

YOUNG—At Revelstoke, on Wednesday, December 16th, the wife of F. Young, of a son.

MARRIED.

PEELE—WOODILL—At Christ Church, Vancouver, on July 3rd, by Rev. H. L. Roy Stanley Gibbons, fourth son of Capt. and Mrs. Peele, New Westminster, B. C., to Lyla Wells, fourth daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John D. Woodill, Sydney, C. B. (Sydney papers please copy.)

CARR—TURNROSS—At the Methodist Parsonage, at Revelstoke, on Wednesday, December 16th, by Rev. C. Ladner, William G. Carr, to Miss Hilda C. Turnross, both of Revelstoke.

GRIMER—MACDONALD—At New Westminster, on Dec. 16th, Lance Grimer and Miss Katie MacDonald.

PHILLIPS — DEVLIN — At St. Paul's church, Esquimalt, B. C., on the 16th December, by the Right Reverend the Bishop of Columbia, assisted by the Rev. C. Ensor Sharp, George Phillips, son of the late John Haines Phillips, to Laura Ashton, only daughter of J. Watson Devlin.

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IN ORDER TO INTRODUCE

THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST

to new readers the paper will be sent to any address in Canada, the United States or Great Britain and her Colonies, postage prepaid, from now until the end of '03

For 15c.

Or the COLONIST (Semi-Weekly) and MAIL and EMPIRE, Toronto (Week ly)

For 25c.

For the same period of time. Send 25c n coin, stamps or money order and se e how you like the Trial Trip. Address

SUBSCRIPTION DEPARTMENT

THE COLONIST, VICTORIA, B. C.

THERE ARE TURKEYS! AND TURKEYS!!

Such a difference in them. It all lies in the way they are fed and fattened. Don't buy a cheap one and turn your Xmas feast into disappointment.

We have received our Turkeys and they compare favorably with Island birds. Call and inspect them before purchasing elsewhere.

Cape Cod Cranberries
Large Navel Oranges
Large Red Apples
Red Currant Jelly
Japan Oranges
New Figs and Dates

MOWAT & WALLACE. LEADING GROCERS

COR. YATES AND DOUGLAS STS.

Christmas Presents

Carvers and Carving Sets in Great Variety; also Gem & Rollman Mince Meat Choppers.

FOR SALE BY

The Hickman Tye Hardware Co., LIMITED.

32 and 34 Yates Street, Victoria, B. C.

New Mexican Nuts, - 15c lb
Pop Corn - 5c Package
Cape Cod Cranberries, - 20c lb
Port Wine, - 50c bottle
Watson's Scotch, $1.00 bottle
Eastern Turkeys, Smith Falls, 20c lb

DIXI H. ROSS & Co., CASH GROCERS

The only store not in a combine.

Christmas Slippers

The largest and best variety in the city at popular prices, awaiting your call. See windows for display.

JAMES MAYNARD

85 Douglas Street, Odd Fellows' Block.

In Turkey Time You Want Good Wine

Absolute purity and just what the label promises. That's what your're sure of when you buy your Wines and Liquors of these stores. Try our Xmas Cheer and you will not be disappointed. This is a partial list of what we carry:

Old White Port, per bot	$1.50	Amontillado Sherry, very old, per bot.	$1.50
Old Style Madeira	$1.50	Fine Old Sherry, 10 years old, per bot.	$1.00
Spanish Port, 10 years old	$1.00	Caledonia "Scotch," old and mellow	$1.00
California Port, 3 years old	.50	Risk's "Scotch," pure and wholesome	$1.00
Clarets, very fine, from	25c. to 75c.	Burk's "Irish," the favorite, per bot.	$1.00
		Mitchell's "Irish." None better	$1.00

The "West End" Grocery Co. Lt.

'PHONE 88. 42 GOVERNMENT STREET.

The Saunders Grocery Co. Ltd.

'PHONE 28. 39 AND 41 JOHNSON STREET.